

Rahm sizing up
mayoral race? **9**

Best bartenders:
The final four **20**

Like Shatner,
like son **39**

Chicago chef makes
'All-Star' cast **48**

**Red
eye**

A Chicago Tribune
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WHO'S BIN IT TO WIN IT? HOW CHICAGO RECYCLING STACKS UP **PAGES 6-7**

best bets

By Rebecca Palmore

rkpalmore@tribune.com



For beer geeks

Delilah's, 2771 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-472-2771

Give fall flavors a hearty welcome at the Oktoberfest and Pumpkin Beer Festival. Buy 2-ounce samples, bottles and pints of seasonal entries, and don't miss a five-year vertical tasting of Ayinger Oktober Fest-Marzen. Prost! 5-9 p.m. No cover.

For music buffs

Metro, 3730 N. Clark St. 773-549-0203

Local multitasking machine the Chicago International Movies and Music Fest (CIMM) presents the Chicago premiere "Do it Again," a documentary in which Boston Globe reporter Geoff Edgers sets out to reunite brothers Ray and Dave Davies' band the Kinks. 7:30 p.m. \$6-\$10.



For watchers

Macy's on State Street, 111 N. State St., Lower level. 312-781-1000

You know you're a fan of "America's Next Top Model" if you're familiar with "smizing," "dreckitude" and striking judge-photog Nigel Barker (left). Snap up a copy of his book "Beauty Equation" (\$19.95) and let Barker personalize it for you on site. Noon; store opens at 10 a.m.

FIND MORE BEST BETS AT METROMIX.COM



LAST WEEK'S WINNER

Theme: Orange

Title: "Inside Orange"

Photographer: Rita Krueger,

50, Rogers Park

88 68

TODAY'S FORECAST

Mother Nature's still got the big guns out



FRI.

70

53

This is how we like fall



SAT.

66

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Light sweater weather



SUN.

68

51

You can still wear shorts too



MON.

70

55

And maybe a sun hat

CALLING ALL PHOTOGRAPHERS

Got some serious skills with a camera? Show us! Each week RedEye picks a theme, and then we post our favorite submissions on our blog. Here is our latest installment.

Your next assignment:

Capture a photo with the theme "Cars."

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Author reveals ancestor's fatal steering error

Reuters

LONDON The Titanic hit an iceberg in 1912 because of a basic steering error, and only sank as fast as it did because an official persuaded the captain to continue sailing, an author said in an interview published Wednesday.

Louise Patten, a writer and granddaughter of Titanic second officer Charles Lightoller, said the truth about what happened nearly 100 years ago had been hidden for fear of tarnishing the reputation of her grandfather, who later became a war hero.

Lightoller, the most senior officer to have survived the disaster, covered up the error in two inquiries on both sides of the Atlantic because he was worried it would bankrupt the ill-fated liner's owners and put his colleagues out of a job.

"They could easily have avoided the iceberg if it wasn't for the blunder," Patten told the Daily Telegraph.

"Instead of steering Titanic safely round to the left of the iceberg, once it had been spotted dead ahead, the steersman, Robert Hitchins, had panicked and turned it the wrong way."

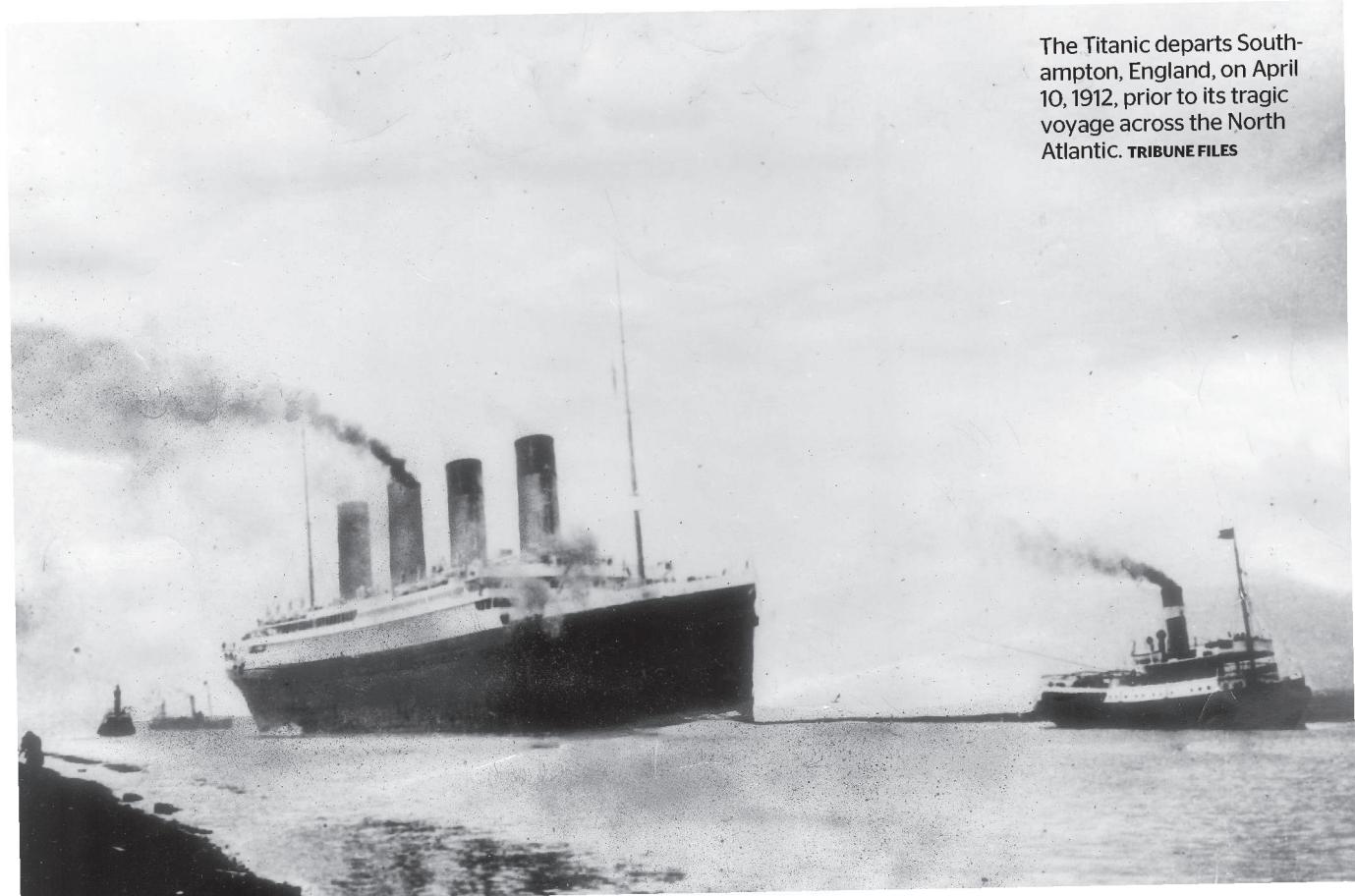
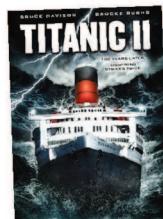
Patten, who made the revelations to coincide with the publication of her new novel "Good as Gold" into which her account of events are woven, said the conversion from sail ships to steam meant there were two different steering systems.

Crucially, one system meant turning the wheel one way and the other in completely the opposite direction.

Once the mistake had been made, Patten added, "they only had four minutes to change course and by the time [first officer William] Murdoch spotted Hitchins' mistake and then tried to rectify it, it was too late."

Just sayin'

Last month, a California-based production company released an action film titled "Titanic 2." According to a description on the company's website, the flick revolves around a modern luxury liner named after the doomed ship. On the 100th anniversary of the original ship's voyage, Titanic 2 sets out to retrace its path—with disastrous results. \$17.99 at store.theasylum.cc.



The Titanic departs Southampton, England, on April 10, 1912, prior to its tragic voyage across the North Atlantic. **TRIBUNE FILES**

'Disaster voyeurism'

Cruise companies' plans to retrace Titanic's voyage spark debate

CNN

The frigid waters of the North Atlantic aren't among the most prominent cruise destinations, but that may change as the world remembers one of the worst maritime disasters in history.

At least two cruises are planned in spring 2012 to coincide with the

Still, both voyages are attracting interest as the Titanic—the subject of countless books and movies—continues to fascinate.

"There's a magic about Titanic that transcends reality," said Carolyn Spencer Brown, editor of cruisecritic.com, a website that features cruise reviews.

"Perhaps what makes it special is that its story, and that of the passengers who didn't survive their journeys, never did have a satisfying conclusion. And so that's why the ship continues to live on."

The Titanic Memorial Cruise on the vessel Balmoral will retrace the doomed ship's original itinerary, departing from Southampton,

England; passing by Cherbourg, on the French coast; and calling into the Irish port of Cobh before sailing across the Atlantic Ocean to the sinking site.

Once there, a memorial service will be held at 2:20 a.m. April 15, 2012—exactly a century after Titanic sank. The ship will take 1,309 passengers on the trip, the same number of people who were on the Titanic.

Meanwhile, Voyages! Titanic 2012 is a cruise that's set to depart on the Azamara Journey from Boston on April 9, 2012.

The ship will take up to 680 passengers to Halifax, Nova Scotia—which received many of the Titanic victims—and then sail to the sink-

ing site. It too will hold a memorial service on the anniversary to honor "that fateful day in history."

An expedition ship with a remotely operated diving vehicle will follow along so that, weather permitting, passengers will be able to see live images from the wreck, said organizer Bill Willard.

"There are people who have studied and researched and read and want to know as much as they can about what happened that night and about the people who were on board," Willard said.

"This is their chance to touch something real about Titanic, to be at the site."



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page four

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A feminine formula for teen sex comedies

Last week I saw "The Virginity Hit," which is the latest movie within the tiny Hollywood genre featuring sex-crazed high school kids on a quest to lose their virginity (see also: "Porky's," "American Pie" and "Superbad").

The problem with these movies is that they always star guys. Between the wacky high jinx and underage drinking, it's always the nerdy and chubby boys who are ready to turn in their v-cards, and never the girls.

Oh sure, there are plenty of wacky teen comedies featuring a female lead cast, but they're always about a group of girls obsessing over fantasy prom dates and popularity makeovers. These caricatured girls have madcap shopping montages and talk about first kisses as if they're as important and insurmountable as the summit of Mount Everest.

This might be a totally outlandish concept for some people, but by senior year of high school some girls are ready to lose their virginity. In fact, some girls are just as ready as their horn-dog male counterparts. These are not mythical creatures like unicorns or Cubs pennants — these are the mature, unashamed girls who I went to high school with.

When will there be a teen comedy about these girls?

(Back away from your keyboards before firing off an angry letter accusing me of glamorizing teenage sex. Here's the thing: Teenage sex is always going to happen. Always. All I'm trying to point out is that as long as there is teenage sex, Hollywood will be making teen sex comedies, so why can't we girls have one to call our own?)

I'll give Hollywood a head start. Here's what my teen sex comedy would look like: First, the cast would consist of real girls. The guys in "The Virginity Hit" are chubby, nerdy and creepy-looking, or a combination of all those things. Naturally, all their potential conquests are beautiful girls — including a full-fledged, no-tan-lines porn star.

Let's have a female version, shall we? I'm picturing a cast of young ladies who are nerdy-looking too (and not in the Hollywood sense of gorgeous-girl-wearing-glasses) and no one less than a size 4. The girls' conquests would be strikingly handsome guys — even the nerds would have six-packs.

In my movie, the girls who did lose their virginity wouldn't be punished with pregnancy (a la "Juno") because they'd be smart and safe about it. There would be no silly subplots about a wacky English teacher or getting a driver's license. However, there would be a hilarious scene in which one of these fantastic girls tries to set up the perfect date for her suitor. Instead of the cliched roses and candlelight that the boys in teen sex comedies foist awkwardly upon their girlfriends, the ladies would clumsily shower the guys with exactly what they think would get the romance flowing: a paintball gun, a few Big Macs and letting them win at "Halo 3."

Can somebody get Tina Fey on the phone? I think I've got something here. **KATIE DONAVAND IS A REDEYE SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR.**

CORRECTION: Isaac Brock is the lead singer of Modest Mouse. A story on Page 42 of Wednesday's RedEye gave an incorrect name.



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THE STATE OF RECYCLING

HOW DOES OUR PROGRAM COMPARE WITH OTHER CITIES?

By Leonor Vivanco | REDEYE

It's no secret Chicago has struggled with recycling—more than half the homes eligible to get blue carts are without them and don't get their recyclables picked up by the city.

After switching from blue bags to blue carts, the city suspended the rollout of the carts throughout the city this year because of its financial woes.

Last month, Mayor Daley floated the idea of privatizing recycling operations to help plug an estimated \$655 million budget hole. The city is planning to issue a request for proposals to find a recycling hauler to provide the service at a lower cost and then use the savings to expand to new areas. Officials will also explore a plan to place drop-off bins at grocery stores and pharmacies to make recycling more convenient.

"We'll see what the marketplace says," Daley said at a news conference last month. "But I'm always looking for new ways for us to do better, so I hope we receive some solid responses."

In June, aldermen discussed ways to expand the blue cart program. The idea of privatization and fees were raised. Now, the Laborers Union Local 1001 has suggested charging a \$10 monthly fee to pick up recyclables, according to a news report.

Some recycling advocates question how privatization would work out considering the city leased parking meters in 2008 and has spent most of the \$1.15 billion from that deal.

Any privatization deal needs to be transparent, said Mike Nowak, president of the Chicago Recycling Coalition. Specifically, he suggested the city work out a deal where Chicago would collect a percentage of revenue a private company would make from recyclable materials.

"One of my concerns is that if we just give it away, the value of recyclables will continue to rise. We again will be looking at a money stream we just gave away and nobody wants that to happen again," Nowak said.

Matt Smith, spokesman for the city's Streets and Sanitation Department, said the city is developing a plan to enhance its recycling program and possibly expand it in the future.

So, how does Chicago stack up in recycling?

True comparisons can be tricky because cities can differ on the materials they collect and recycle, the fees charged to recycle and how they report the recycling rates (amount of waste diverted from landfills and recycled).

RedEye looked at the 10 biggest cities in the U.S. to find out how their residential recycling programs work.

#1 NYC POP. 8.39 MILLION

Method: The city collects recyclables weekly from single-family homes and multiple-unit dwellings but does not provide containers for recycling. Residents have to separate recyclables, mark the bins in writing or attach free color-coded recycling decals to containers or clear bags.

Recycling program started in: 1986 **Cost to residents:** None

RECYCLING STATS

» 16 to 17 percent recycling rate » 551,200 tons recycled per year

3.4 MILLION HOUSEHOLDS

LOS ANGELES



#2 LA POP. 3.83 MILLION

Method: The city collects recyclables weekly from single-family homes and small multi-family buildings of four units or fewer. Since 2007, the city has offered a separate voluntary program for multi-family residential buildings of five units or more. Under the program, the city pays contracted private haulers to pick up recyclables weekly from multi-family residential buildings at no cost to residents. Previously, property managers and residents had to work together to start their own recycling program.

Recycling program started in: 1990
Cost to residents: About \$40 per month to single-family homes and duplexes for cost of curbside collection program (includes trash, recyclables and yard waste); about \$20 a month for small multi-family residences of three and four units.

#3 CHI POP. 2.85 MILLION

Method: The city collects recyclables every other week from single-family homes and multi-unit buildings of four units or fewer with blue carts. However, not all eligible households have blue carts in their alleys to store their recyclables. Rollout of the program was halted this year because of budget constraints. Bigger residential buildings and condos must have their own private recycling programs.

Recycling program started in: 1995 **Cost to residents:** None

RECYCLING STATS

» 36 city-run drop-off sites

241,000 HOUSEHOLDS

14.8%

recycling rate, including yard waste

54,419 TONS

RECYCLING STATS

45% recycling rate, including yard waste

» 750,000 households plus 430,000 units as part of the multi-family residential recycling program
» 717,000 tons

#10 SAN JOSE
POP. 964,695

61%

recycling rate,
including yard waste

#8 SANDIEGO
POP. 1.3 MILLION

72,000 TONS

NEW YORK CITY

CHICAGO



PHILADELPHIA



U.S. RECYCLING RATE

33.2%

An EPA report issued in November 2009 stated Americans generated 250 million tons of trash. About 83 tons were recycled and composted. That's equivalent to a 33.2 percent recycling rate.

PHOENIX

SAN ANTONIO

#4 HOU
POP. 2.25
MILLION

Method: The city collects recyclables biweekly from 18-gallon bins or 96-gallon carts at single-family homes and residential buildings eight units or fewer. About 30 neighborhoods are on a waiting list to get recycling services.

Recycling program started in: 1990
Cost to residents: None

RECYCLING STATS

**74,616
TONS**

» 189,000 households
» 13 city-run drop-off sites
» 14.7 percent recycling rate,
including yard waste

#9 DALLAS
POP. 1.29 MILLION

33,389 TONS

#5 PHX
POP. 1.6
MILLION

Method: The city collects recyclables weekly from single-family homes, condo units and apartments up to four units. Apartment complexes up to 30 units get city pickup if they have agreements with the city. Any building larger is considered commercial property and privately serviced.

Recycling program started in: 1989
Cost to residents: About \$30 monthly solid waste fee (includes garbage collection, disposal and recycling)

RECYCLING STATS

» 392,000 households
» 18.4 percent recycling rate
» 3 city-run drop-off sites

**112,827
TONS**

#6 PHI POP. 1.54
MILLION

Method: The city collects recyclables weekly from a 32-gallon recycling bin or container marked "recycling" at single-family homes and apartments with six units or fewer. Apartments with more than six units have to use a private hauler to collect recyclables.

Recycling program started in: 1999

Cost to residents: Annual \$150 solid resource fee imposed on multi-unit properties for collecting trash and recycling. Free to residents of single-family homes.

RECYCLING STATS

» 540,000 households » 99,445 tons » 3 city-run drop-off sites

15.7%

recycling rate, including yard waste and scrap materials

#7 SAN AN POP. 1.37
MILLION

Method: The city collects recyclables weekly from single-family homes and most multi-family buildings up to four units. Other multi-family apartments and condos are serviced by private collection companies and many do not provide recycling services.

Recycling program started in: 1995
Cost to residents: About \$20 per month for garbage, brush/bulky items, recycling, and dead animal collection programs

RECYCLING STATS:

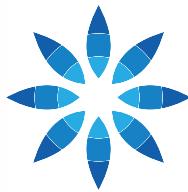
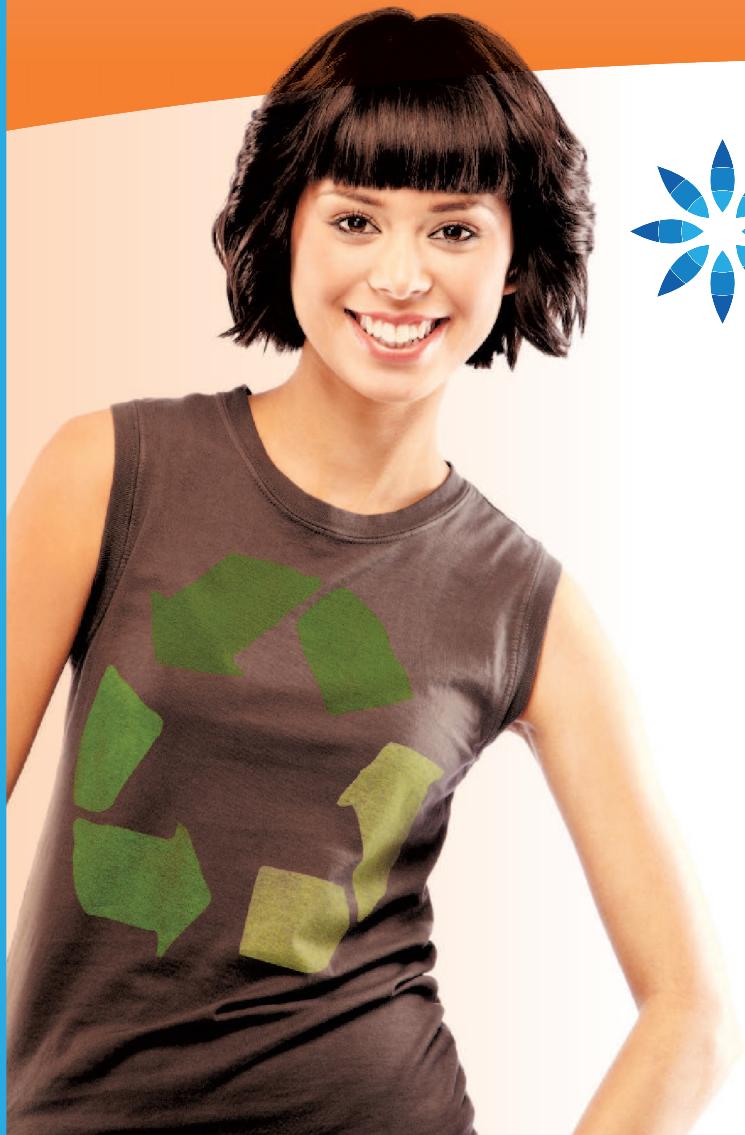
» 340,000 households » 1 city-run drop-off site
» 18 percent recycling rate including yard waste

71,700 TONS

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Rahm Emanuel (left) has been President Obama's chief of staff for almost two years, but sources say he wants to become Chicago's next mayor. **TRIBUNE FILE**



What will Rahm do?

President's right-hand man drops more hints he might run for mayor

Chicago Tribune

Staking out his territory back in Chicago, White House chief of staff Rahm Emanuel is chatting up potential opponents and delivering strong hints he'll return home to run for mayor.

A source close to Emanuel told the Tribune on Wednesday it is "very possible" Emanuel will leave before the crucial Nov. 2 midterm elections to launch his bid to succeed Mayor Daley. Such a move would both shake up the Washington pecking order and perhaps start to separate the contenders from the pretenders in Chicago.

Until then, Emanuel is spreading out his notoriously sharp elbows to make sure there's a place for him at the front of the mayor's contest.

He's burning up the phone lines back to Chicago and inviting others to D.C. restaurants to feel out potential mayoral opponents who could quickly become

MADIGAN KEEPS OPTIONS OPEN

Attorney General Lisa Madigan on Wednesday refused to say she would complete her third term if she is re-elected in November, leaving the door open for a run for Chicago mayor.

Madigan, a Chicago Democrat, was asked repeatedly in a Tribune interview whether she would pledge to serve out her four-year term if re-elected. She declined to give a yes or no answer, instead talking about how much she enjoyed her current position.

"I want to serve as your attorney general. That is my goal," Madigan said.

TRIBUNE

supporters if they don't run. Many of those Chicago politicians Emanuel has approached describe his message as twofold: He's seeking support if he runs while also giving notice that he'd be tough to beat.

Those Emanuel has contacted say they

weren't bullied to get out of the race.

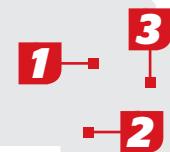
"He's a big dog. Big dogs don't need to do that," said U.S. Rep. Mike Quigley, who holds Emanuel's former House seat and met with him Wednesday in Washington.

As he preps a potential candidacy, Emanuel by and large has turned to politicians in his base on the North Side, which elected him four times to Congress.

"I got the impression it is very likely he is going to do this," said U.S. Rep. Danny Davis, who also is circulating petitions for a possible mayoral run.

Davis said he spoke to Emanuel, at the chief of staff's request, for about half an hour Tuesday at a D.C. restaurant.

Although President Obama previously has said he wouldn't expect Emanuel to leave as chief of staff before the midterms, candidates have only until Nov. 22 to collect the 12,500 valid signatures they need to get on the ballot.



Homicide tracker

By **Tracy Swartz** | REDEYE

Auburn Gresham and West Englewood both recorded one homicide in the past week, which brought each community area's 2010 homicide toll to 19 victims, a RedEye analysis of preliminary police data found.

In Auburn Gresham, a 31-year-old man was shot to death Saturday in the 8200 block of South Justine Street, police said.

In West Englewood, a 47-year-old woman was stabbed to death Friday in the 1300 block of West 56th Street, police said.

Meanwhile, a 20-year-old man was shot to death Wednesday in Woodlawn, police said.

Citywide, 20 homicides have been recorded so far this month, according to data. Police recorded 40 homicides in September 2009, RedEye found. TSWARTZ@TRIBUNE.COM

Homicides from Sept. 15 to 4 p.m. Wednesday (Note: All locations had one victim.)

1 1300 BLOCK OF W. 56TH ST.

Date: Sept. 17 Cause: Stabbing

2 8200 BLOCK OF S. JUSTINE ST.

Date: Sept. 18 Cause: Gunshot

3 6300 BLOCK OF S. RHODES AVE.

Date: Sept. 22 Cause: Gunshot

Man charged in 2009 slaying

Martell Hill, 27, is charged with first-degree murder in connection with the October slaying of another man on the West Side. The murder charge was filed in the fatal shooting of 26-year-old Jamar Taylor.

Roosevelt students fall ill

Several students were sickened by fumes from a chemical spill at Roosevelt University on Wednesday, authorities said. The students were being treated after a hazardous materials incident at the Loop university.

Alderman: No amateurs

Ald. Bernard Stone (50th) on Wednesday announced he will seek an 11th term, saying "it will be no time for amateurs" in the City Council when a new mayor takes over.

Threat closes Daley Center

The Daley Center was briefly closed Wednesday morning and CTA Blue Line trains bypassed the station underneath the building after someone phoned in a bomb threat, authorities said. Police checked out the threat and found nothing. **TRIBUNE**

Red Line shooting unjustified, lawyer says

Chicago Tribune

The parents of a teenager who was shot and killed by Chicago Police officers last weekend on a CTA train sobbed in their chairs as their lawyer explained the basis of a wrongful death lawsuit the family has filed against the city of Chicago.

George Lash, 19, was shot by police who boarded the train at the Garfield/55th Red Line station after the train operator reportedly called police to say that Lash was brandishing a gun. Police say the teen pointed the gun at officers and they then fired at him, but some witnesses have contradicted that account.

The family's attorney, Antonio Romanucci, said he interviewed two independent witnesses who both said they never saw Lash with a gun when he was shot and that police already had subdued him, holding his right arm behind his back.

"The use of deadly force is justified only under very certain, narrow circumstances," Romanucci said. "As of right now, we don't [see] that any of those circumstances were present in this sad shooting."

CTA officials said that although train cars are not equipped with surveillance cameras, the Garfield station does have cameras. That video was turned over to police, who said it appears to back the officers' version of events.

Carmela Lash-Cross had raised George Lash since he was 2 years old and eventually adopted him. After she left the room crying, her husband, Kenneth Cross, reflected on his stepson.

"George was not a bad kid," Cross said. "George was trying to go back to school. George had started attending church. He was trying to get a GED."

"It's destroying me," Cross said of the teen's death.



Carmela Lash-Cross breaks down Wednesday during a news conference where her attorney announced a wrongful death lawsuit against the city. Lash-Cross' son, George Lash, was shot by Chicago police on a CTA train last weekend. **CHRIS WALKER/TRIBUNE**

Blago appointee facing federal charges

Chicago Tribune

Former Gov. Rod Blagojevich was still a state prosecutor when he met Bamani Obadele more than 20 years ago, striking up a conversation with him at a South Side police station where Obadele, then a teenager, was shining shoes.

They remained friends, with Obadele going on to community activism, assisting Blagojevich in his 2002 election as governor and then landing a state post at the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services.

It was a controversial appointment that

ended with a contracting scandal, Obadele's 2005 resignation and, on Wednesday, federal charges.

Obadele, now a well-known preacher at Greater Harvest Missionary Baptist Church on the South Side, was accused of fraud by federal prosecutors for allegedly steering tens of thousands of dollars in agency funds to companies he had stakes in and then pocketing much of the money.

Obadele resigned from his position as deputy director of the agency's office of external affairs after the agency's inspector general al-

leged public funds had wound up in his bank accounts.

He previously had acknowledged making missteps as a DCFS leader.

"If at the end of the day I did something wrong, I'll have to be held accountable for that. I don't think I did," Obadele told the Tribune after stepping down five years ago. "This is not some scheme. It's me selling products to the state. Lesson learned."

Obadele's attorney, David Wiener, said he expects Obadele will plead guilty in the coming weeks in a bid to avoid any prison time.

No bond for man charged in bomb plot

Chicago Tribune

A federal judge on Wednesday denied bond for a Chicago man accused of plotting to explode a bomb last weekend on a crowded street near Wrigley Field.

Sami Samir Hassoun, a Lebanese citizen who allegedly spent months planning a terror attack in Chicago while under FBI surveillance, posed a danger to the public as well as a risk to flee, U.S. Magistrate Judge Susan Cox ruled.



Hassoun

"There's an instability in this man that cannot be addressed through electronic monitoring," Cox said. "It's hard to imagine an offense that presents more potential danger to the public."

Hassoun's attorney, Myron Auerbach, argued Hassoun should be released from custody, confined at home with electronic monitors and supervised by his family.

Auerbach suggested his 22-year-old client was influenced in his actions by a government informant planted as a friend and undercover FBI agents who posed as his terrorist co-conspirators.

"[The case] shows a troubled young man who was scattered in his thoughts," the lawyer said.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Joel Hamerman said Hassoun showed no hesitation when the undercover agents gave him a backpack with what he thought was a bomb. He was arrested moments after dropping it in a trash receptacle by a sports bar in the 3500 block of North Clark Street shortly after midnight Sunday. Authorities said Hassoun favored the crowded location to maximize casualties. The Dave Matthews Band had played at Wrigley Field earlier that night.

Hassoun faces charges of attempting to use a weapon of mass destruction and attempting to detonate an explosive device. The first charge carries a maximum sentence of life in prison.

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Book: Obama team divided

7 **WASHINGTON** The Obama administration pushed back Wednesday against a new book that describes bitter infighting among the president's aides who helped craft his Afghan war strategy, with some doubting it can succeed.

The book by veteran Washington Post journalist Bob Woodward, "Obama's Wars," portrays President Obama's national security team as having been deeply divided over Afghan policy during much of the past 20 months even as U.S. public support for the war has waned.

Though it won't be in bookstores until Monday, excerpts published in major newspapers helped generate considerable buzz in Washington.

PENTAGON RESPONSE

"All I can say at this point is that the department is fully focused on the mission at hand in Afghanistan and implementing the president's strategy there," said Marine Col. David Lapan, a Pentagon spokesman.

A senior administration official downplayed the internal rifts detailed by Woodward, saying "the debates in the book are well known because the policy review process was covered so exhaustively," and defended Obama's handling of the matter.

"The president comes across in the review and throughout the decision-making

process as a commander in chief who is analytical, strategic and decisive, with a broad view of history, national security and his role," the official said.

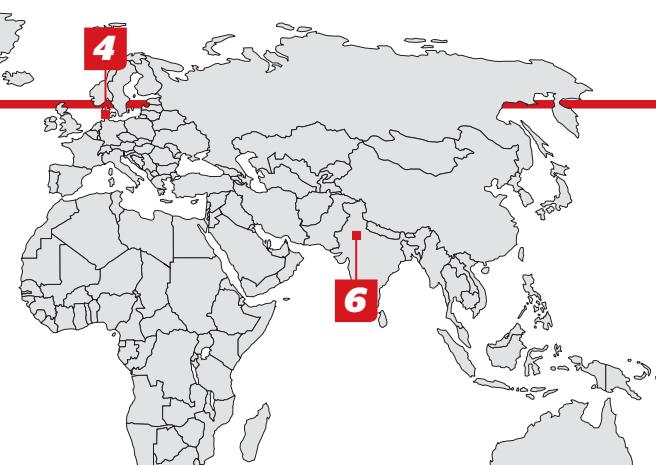
Obama, who is said to have pressed military advisers for an exit plan that they never gave him, eventually decided on a 30,000-troop buildup but included a pledge to start drawing down forces in July 2011.

"I can't lose the whole Democratic Party," Obama is quoted in the book as saying. He campaigned for the presidency on a promise to shift the military focus from Iraq to Afghanistan but also is mindful of the political risks of getting bogged down there.



Up against a wall

8 A man walks past a wall painted with a portrait of Venezuelan President Hugo Chavez in Caracas on Wednesday. Opposition candidates are expected to win several seats in this weekend's parliamentary elections. **GETTY IMAGES**



GETTY IMAGES

Egg farm owner apologizes

1 The owner of one farm at the center of a massive egg recall apologized before Congress on Wednesday to anyone who may have been sickened by his product, while another refused to answer questions about conditions at his operation.

Accused N.Y. slasher pleads not guilty

2 A New York film student accused of slashing a cabdriver's throat last month after asking if he was Muslim pleaded not guilty Wednesday. The judge said he would not set bail for Michael Enright until he is medically cleared from a psychiatric ward, where he was ordered for mental evaluation earlier this month.

Sex suit filed against pastor

3 A third civil suit has been filed against Atlanta-based megachurch pastor Eddie Long, alleging coercion, negligence and fraud that involved a sexual relationship with a third young male. Through a spokesman, Long on Tuesday denied similar allegations by two men.

Danish newspaper revisits Mohammed cartoons

4 The cartoons of the Prophet Mohammed that sparked protests worldwide four years ago will be republished in a new book soon. Staffers at Danish newspaper Jyllands-Posten said the cartoons will be in a book created by cultural editor Flemming Rose and will be titled "The Tyranny of Silence."

Florida court overturns gay adoption ban

5 A Florida appeals court Wednesday struck down a state law barring gay men and lesbians from adoption on the basis of equal protection under the law.

Worries plague India event

6 England will send its first group of athletes to New Delhi for the Commonwealth Games on Thursday as the overbudget sports event struggles with construction, cleanliness and safety. Some teams and athletes have delayed their departures because of questions about the facilities and security.

OMG! Girl wins big \$ for txting

9 A New York teenager with a 7,000-a-month texting habit now has a lot more to text about.

Brianna Hendrickson, 13, of Brooklyn, won this year's LG U.S. National Texting Championship in New York by accurately typing the phrase "Old McDonald had a farm, Ei, ei, oh! And on this farm he had a champ. W/a txtr here, and BFF there. Here a text, there a text, erywhere a text-text!" in 60 seconds.

Brianna took home \$50,000 and will compete in the LG Text For Good Challenge, where she will have the chance to double her prize money and win an additional \$50,000 for a charity of her choice, the technology company said.

THE DIGIT

280

At least 280 endangered Morelet crocodiles have escaped from a Mexican refuge near the Gulf of Mexico after heavy flooding caused by Hurricane Karl.

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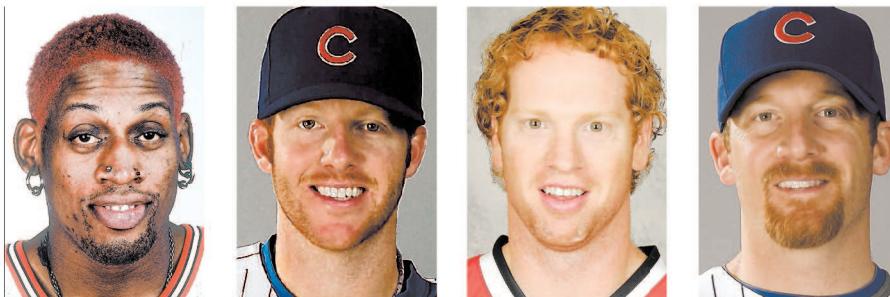
Brian Scalabrine
GETTY IMAGES

BIG RED MACHINE

BRIAN SCALABRINE JOINS THE LIST OF REDHEADED CHICAGO ATHLETES

RedEye

When the Bulls brought Brian Scalabrine to town this week to compete for a roster spot in training camp, they added to a Chicago sports legacy: the redheaded athlete. There have been many "gingers" through the years, some of them superstars and some of them, well, not superstars. Here's a roundup—not an M.I.A. "Born Free"-style roundup, mind you—of some of the more recent Chicago sports stars with red hair.



Luc Longley
Bulls

Big Luc wasn't the most gifted athlete, but the 7-foot-2 Australian was exactly what the Bulls needed during the team's second three-peat from 1996-98. That is, when he wasn't on the bench with a dislocated shoulder.

Dennis Rodman
Bulls

Besides being a rebounding machine, the flamboyant Rodman perhaps was best known for his tradition of coloring his hair. While with the Bulls from 1995-99, his red hair often made an appearance.

Matt Murton
Cubs

Murton spent parts of four seasons with the Cubs (2005-08) and ended 2006 as the team's leader in batting average at .297. When Cliff Floyd was signed in 2007, it was the beginning of the end for Murton.

Brian Campbell
Blackhawks

Campbell is one of the stars of the Blackhawks defense, and his flaming red beard was a scene-stealer during the team's run to the Stanley Cup in June. He's entering his third season with the Hawks.

Ryan Dempster
Cubs

You don't get to see his head that often thanks to his Cubs cap, but the pitcher's red goatee is front and center. He's one of the longer-standing Chicago redheads, with seven seasons under his belt.

Noah: 'We can do something special here'

Joakim Noah has heard the talk, and he's pondered the rumors about him being the focus of a possible trade with Denver for star forward Carmelo Anthony.

"It's a strange feeling, because any given day you can always get traded to a city that you really don't know anything about,"

Noah said Wednesday. "But at the same time, you look at the big picture. Things could be a lot worse. But my goal is I want to stay in Chicago. I think we can do something really special here."

The Knicks, Nets, Bulls and Rockets have been rumored to be interested in

dealing for Anthony.

"Obviously, Carmelo is a great player," Noah said. "But we are also very good right now. I really enjoy playing with guys like Luol Deng and Taj Gibson and other guys who are rumored [to be] in that trade. So, yeah, either way it will be fine." **TRIBUNE**

Quarterback conundrums

It might be too glamorous to be on "Dirty Jobs," yet NFL quarterback still is one of the toughest jobs in the world. Exhibit A: The first two weeks of this season we've seen a host of QBs crash and burn. Let's look at some of the passers fantasy owners have the most questions about.

» **David Garrard, Jacksonville:**

Benched in Week 2 because of general horribleness. Not going to lose his job, but he shouldn't be your starter anyway.

» **Jason Campbell, Oakland:** Ditto.

» **Kevin Kolb, Philadelphia:** Lost his starting job to Michael Vick. Let's see how long that lasts.

» **Jimmy Clausen, Carolina:** Rookie QB + run-heavy offense = not fantasy material.

» **Josh Freeman, Tampa Bay:** We're not believers yet, and he's got three tough matchups ahead. Stash him on your bench just in case.

» **Kyle Orton, Denver:** Capt. Neckbeard is underrated. He's become a Top 12 fantasy guy. Start him.

» **Derek Anderson, Arizona:** He's a bomb. Not as in "The Bomb" but as in he'll destroy your fantasy team.

CRUSHES

» **Mike Williams, Tampa Bay wide receiver:** Talented rookie has emerged as the Bucs' best wideout.

» **Mike Tolbert, San Diego running back:** A must-have for Ryan Mathews owners and a nice bench warmer for others banking on Mathews missing more time.

» **Demaryius Thomas, Denver wide receiver:** This is the year of the Broncos passing game and Air Orton. No, seriously.

CRASHES

» **Reggie Bush, New Orleans running back:** Who cares about the Heisman? Bush should apologize to fantasy owners and give them their draft money back.

» **T.J. Houshmandzadeh, Baltimore wide receiver:** Wishful thinking. He's lost on the Ravens.

» **Washington defense:** People got excited when Mike Shanahan came aboard, but Shanahan isn't suiting up as a corner. Stay away.



Dr. Fantasy

RYAN SMITH
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five on five

Happy returns

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1 What's it like to have hockey—albeit preseason—back?	I don't know, I was traded to the Atlanta Thrashers a few weeks ago.	Like buying cold medicine. Glad to have it, wasn't dying without it.	I'm so excited I just knocked out four of my front teeth.	It's like even better than fitting into my skinny jeans!	Preseason = Christmas Eve. Or Black Wednesday. That's my equivalent of an Oprah "Ah ha" moment.
2 What could Brian Scalabrine bring to the Bulls?	Besides vowels?	Enthusiasm while jumping off the bench to high-five actual players during timeouts.	He'll be that power fire-crotch we've been missing since Luc Longley left.	Luck. (I love his Irish red hair.)	I appreciate a man who matches his hair to the uniform. Maybe the others will follow suit.
3 The Cubs' last home stand of the year was delayed by rain. Decipher that symbolism.	If this were symbolism, Dave Matthews Band would have dumped a Porta Potty on the infield.	In the words of Alanis Morissette, "I don't know what 'irony' means."	The season's a wash, and let's hope—like Noah's Ark—only what we need survives.	As I said in the weather report, even in heaven, fans weep for a "W."	Rain on your wedding day is good luck. Perhaps the same for the Cubs?
4 How do you feel about ESPN broadcasting high school football games?	I feel pretty. Oh, so pretty. I feel pretty and witty and, you know, kind of gay.	Better than I feel about Comedy Central broadcasting junior high talent shows.	Everything ESPN does is perfect. Right, boss?	All I need to know is, do I get to see more of Trey Wingo?	If The Situation and Bristol Palin can be on TV, anyone can.
5 Why didn't the N.Y. Jets rule out Braylon Edwards after his arrest this week?	They were too drunk to notice.	Do you really want to live in a world where celebrities' actions have normal consequences?	Can't find him. He's hiding in his beard.	I think there are about \$6 million reasons.	Because they feared The Beard.

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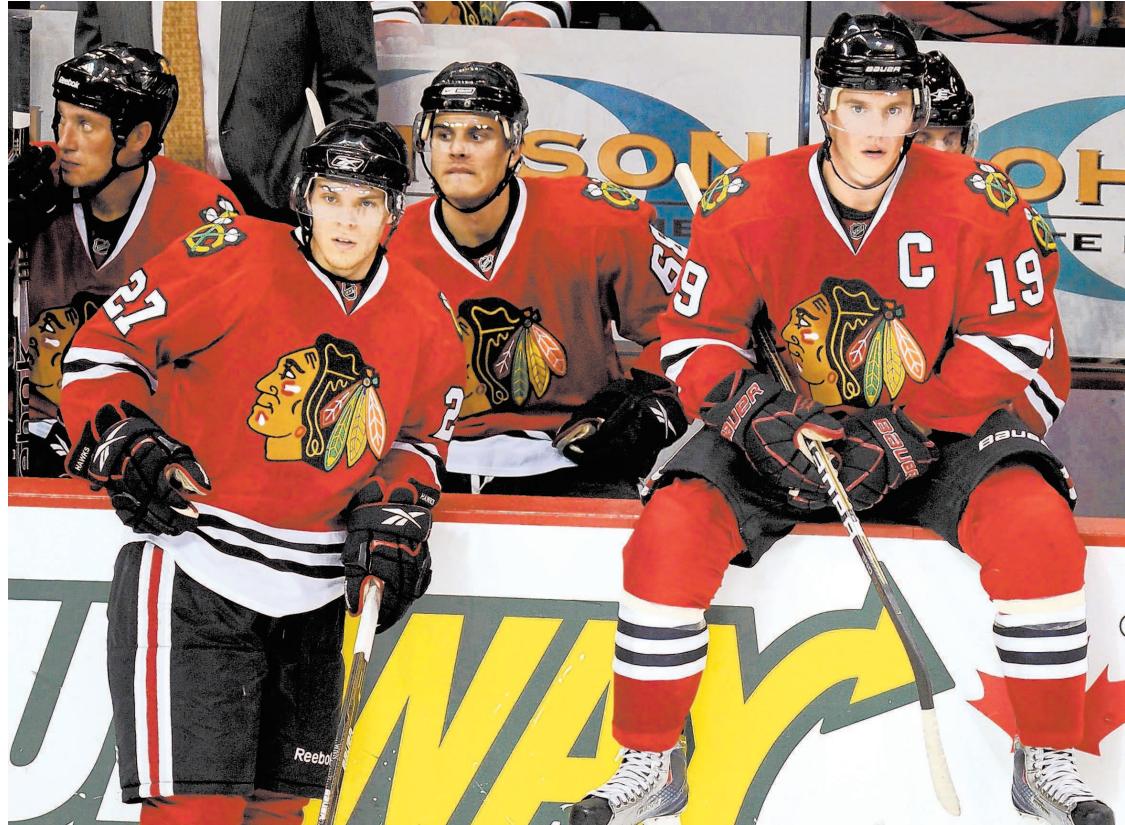
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shortstops from news services



Jeremy Morin (27) and Jonathan Toews (19) of the Blackhawks sit at the bench during a break in action Wednesday in Winnipeg, Manitoba, during an exhibition game against the Tampa Bay Lightning. **REUTERS**

TAMPA BAY 4, BLACKHAWKS 2

Blackhawks awaken

RedEye

Sure, it's just preseason—or exhibition, as it tends to be called—hockey, but it was good to see the Blackhawks back in action. Some of them, at least.

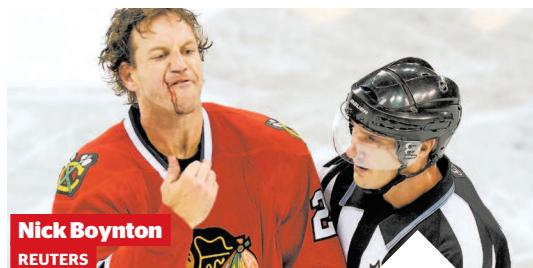
The Hawks sent some of their players to Winnipeg, Manitoba, to face Tampa Bay on Wednesday, and the results were—how to say this—mixed. Still, it was hockey, warts and all. Such as ...

CAPT. SERIOUS GETS, UH, SERIOUS

Hawks captain Jonathan Toews picked up a couple of penalties, but he also thrilled his hometown crowd with a goal in the third period. Many cheers followed, especially from his 30 or so family members in attendance.

DUNCAN TEETH

During an on-air interview, Duncan Keith showed off the new choppers he got over the summer to replace the seven he lost in the playoffs.



Nick Boynton
REUTERS

NEW SENSATIONS

Igor Makarov, Fernando Pisani and Jeremy Morin looked pretty good in their debut. And goalie Marty Turco made a few slick saves—14 in all, including one off the side of his head—but also let in a soft goal.

THROWDOWNS

Nick Boynton was bloodied in one encounter, and Jake Dowell had his sweater pulled over his head in another. Clearly, the fighting is still in pre-season form.

WHITE SOX 4, OAKLAND 3

The Sox showed their persistence by rallying for all four runs in the final three innings to seize a 4-3 win at Oakland and end their season-high eight-game losing streak.

CUBS 2, SAN FRANCISCO 0

Cubs rookie Tyler Colvin was released Wednesday from a Miami hospital and will recuperate at his grandfather's home in South Carolina after being speared by a piece of a broken bat during Sunday's game.



I was just thinking: Do baseball players gets as sick of playing when they're out of the playoffs as we do watching? Here now, my picks.

**Cubs vs.
San Francisco**

6:05 p.m. **CSN**



1 **Cubs 3,
Giants 1.**

Another quality—yet meaningless—win.

**Pittsburgh
vs. Miami**

6:30 p.m. **ESPN**



2 **Hurricanes
28, Panthers
13.**

I still don't understand Thursday night college football.

**Apopka vs.
South Lake**

6 p.m. **ESPN2**



3 **Apopka 24,
South Lake**

I understand Thursday night high school football less.

txtable

To challenge Whizzer, go to redeyechicago.com/whizzer or text "whiz" followed by your picks to **87708**. Don't forget your name.

sports

THE BIG ELEVEN

RedEye rounded up fans/alums/students of every Big Ten school to give us their biased look at college football every Thursday during the season. Join their antics on Twitter using the hash tag **#red10**.

How confident are you in your team after three weeks of games?

What's the nicest thing you can say about your team's rival?

 Dana Mortensen  Illinois @danamarie26	With two wins, we're half-way to beating our record from last year, so things are looking good so far.	Iowa's smart enough to use the block "I" logo just like Illinois, which is the better U of I.
 Jim Hoff  Indiana @jfhoff	About as confident of a bowl berth as Lindsay Lohan is to completing rehab. It's possible.	Perdue raises good chickens.
 Tony Gatz  Iowa @tonygatz	A blowout defeat of Ball State will make me feel better after last week's loss to Arizona.	Columbus, Ohio: Well, at least it's not Cleveland.
 Victor H. Soto  Michigan @vicsoto	On offense, super. Defensively, if confidence were money in the bank, I'd be in the negative.	Brutus is still alive. (Go Ohio U!)
 Julie Adamski  Michigan State @JulieThereseA	After Coach Dantonio's heart attack, I think the boys will make damn sure they win for him.	The only nice thing about Michigan is that we're guaranteed at least one win a season.
 Bekki Chapman  Minnesota @bekkijc	Very. We're losing to the nonconference teams, so we'll for sure get the conference wins.	My sister thinks Bret Bielema is hot.
 Campbell Roth  Northwestern @soupgirl	3-0 against Vandy, ISU and Rice? I smell an undefeated season.	I heard the folks down-state can put on a right nice barn party.
 Brad Obermeyer  Ohio State @SirBardley	Three weeks ranked No. 2? I'd say everything is going just fine in Columbus.	After his performance on Saturday, OU's mascot is the likely winner of the 2010 Dick Butkus Award.
 Ian Patrick  Penn State @NittLion78	Against No. 1-ranked teams? Zero percent. Against small Ohio schools? 100 percent.	Iowa: At least it's not Michigan.
 Andrea Bailiff  Purdue @acbailiff	With a 90 percent confidence interval, I predict Purdue will win at least one more time.	With Michigan's academic program, they'll teach Denard Robinson how to tie his shoes in no time.
 Blair Vender  Wisconsin @Blender86	As confident as I was about Lindsay Blohan falling off the wagon.	Muck Michigan.

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nightlife

HOT SHOTS

MEET YOUR FINAL 4 BEST BARTENDER CONTESTANTS

By Lisa Arnett

The results are in! Last week, you voted to narrow our Top 10 Best Bartender finalists down to the lucky Final Four. To help you get to know them better, we quizzed them on everything from their first boozing experiences to their never-fail suggestions for a bad-day drink.

Want to watch them compete for a shot at the title?

Come to the Metromix Best Bartender Bash on Sept. 28 at Benchmark (1510 N. Wells St.). After sipping samples of their signature drinks, you'll get to vote by text for the best drink of the night and continue voting online at metromix.com/bartender through 11:59 p.m. Oct. 3 to determine who is crowned Best Bartender 2010.

LISA ARNETT IS THE METROMIX NIGHTLIFE PRODUCER. LMARNETT@TRIBUNE.COM

Lindsey Schendel

Age: 24

Neighborhood: Wicker Park

Works at: Bull & Bear (431 N. Wells St.)

Craziest work moment: "A lot of crazy things happen when we're slammed. One time a guy tried to pour his own Guinness because I was taking so long. I freaked out!"

Off-duty bar: Shaw's oyster bar for dirty martinis

First booze story: Age 14. "Me and a girlfriend were feeling rebellious and decided to raid the liquor cabinet while my parents were gone one night. We had Tanqueray gin and Sprite."

Shot suggestion: A lemon drop. "Most people think it's girly, [but] it's straight chilled vodka with a sugared lemon wedge. It hits the spot and gets the job done!"

Follow her: @LindseyBullbear

THE TICKER

Get more need-to-know
Nightlife news at
chicagonow.com/bottleblond

» The former owners of Cleos are behind new neighborhood bar Marble (3281 W. Armitage Ave.) in Logan Square, celebrating its grand opening Saturday.



NEWS ALERT

Cassava (3338 N. Clark St.), a cafe specializing in the South American bread of the same name, opened Wednesday.

Brynn Selser

Age: 26

Neighborhood: Wrigleyville

Works at: Rebel (3462 N. Clark St.) and O'Malley's West (2249 N. Lincoln Ave.)

Off-duty bar: Houndstooth Saloon. "I love country music and they let me dance on the bar."

Hangover cure: "I'll go running, chug water, then consume large quantities of epically fatty food smeared in ranch dressing. I usually feel pretty grand afterwards."

Bad-day drink suggestion: For ladies, a cosmo. "It's pretty, pink, strong (if made correctly) and ... helps you channel your inner 'Sex and the City' goddess." For guys, whiskey on the rocks. "Might as well put some hair on your chest, buck up and get over whatever's bothering you."

Follow her: @Mulantas



» **Market** (1113 W. Randolph St.) is planning to reveal Let Lounge, a table tennis lounge, in its beer garden space next month.

» **The Coach House** (950 W. Wolfram St.) is now a University of Arizona alumni bar.

» **Blockes & Birds** (3341 N. Clark St.), the Lakeview pub originally slated for an early summer opening, now is aiming to open mid-October.

Vinny Bucaro

Age: 30
Neighborhood: South Loop
Works at: Crescendo (222 W. Ontario St.), Manor, Enclave and others
Craziest work moment: "When some random businessman from Australia gave me \$2,000 to let him stand behind the bar with me at Level and drink seven bottles of Cristal with him and his five female guests."

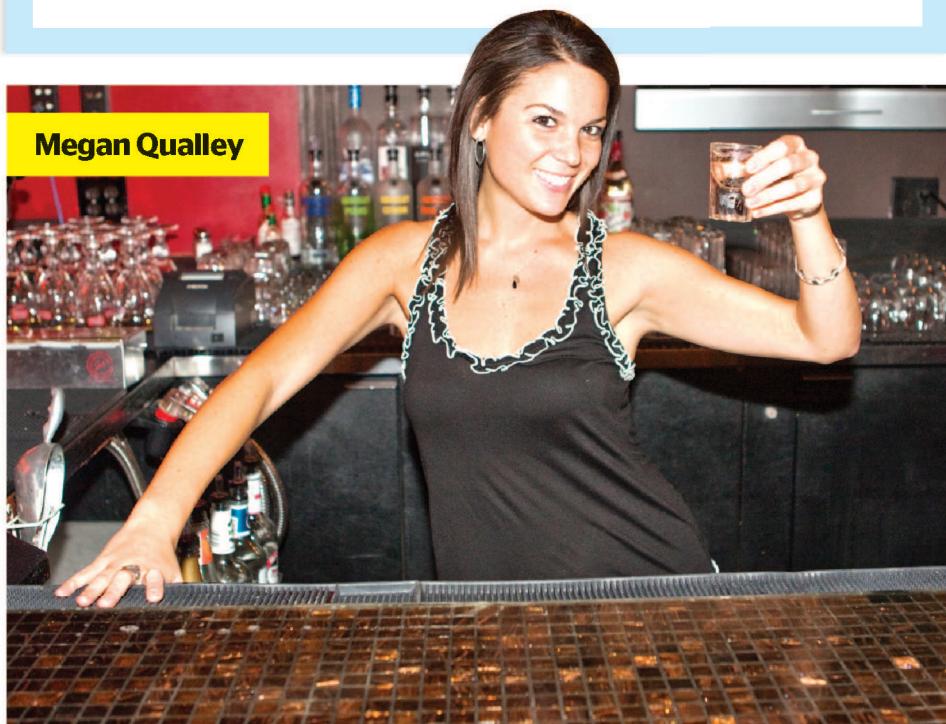


Off-duty drink: Coronas and Ketel One vodka shots

First booze story: Age 15 at his cousin's wedding. "My first sip of hard liquor was Goldschlager and I wanted to die! I was wasted after one."

Bad-day drink suggestion: "Anything the customer likes, but make it a double!"

Follow him: @VinnyBucaro

Megan Qualley

Age: 26

Neighborhood: Noble Square
Works at: Sully's House (1501 N. Dayton St.)

Funniest work moment: "When my co-workers get a little tipsy and turn into their alter-egos. We have names for everyone's alter-ego ... and our customers know them too!"

Off-duty bar: Moonshine. "The outdoor seating is great for people watching."

First booze story: Age 15 at home. "I stole some of my mom's mini-liquor bottles: two bottles of Pucker and one bottle of Wild Turkey."

Bad-day drink suggestion: "It's their choice of shot and I will do it with them."

Follow her: @megan_at_sullys

LENNY GILMORE/REDEYE PHOTOS

3RD ANNUAL

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SPY

FEST FLASH

See you next year!

Festival season was as popular as ever in 2010. We snapped photos of you drinking, dancing and catching up with friends at fests across the city. Go to metromix.com to see hundreds more shots and get full details on this weekend's final batch of parties, including Oktoberfest Chicago and the Edgewater Gralley. See you back here in 2011!

REBECCA PALMORE, RKPALMORE
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i **REDZONE** RAID

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The Wrightwood Tap
metromix.com

The Wrightwood Tap
1059 W. Wrightwood • 773.549.4949
Saturday, Sept. 25th @2:30pm
NOTRE DAME vs Stanford

THE PONY 

The Pony
1638 W. Belmont • 773.828.5055
Saturday, Sept. 25th @6pm
UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY at Florida

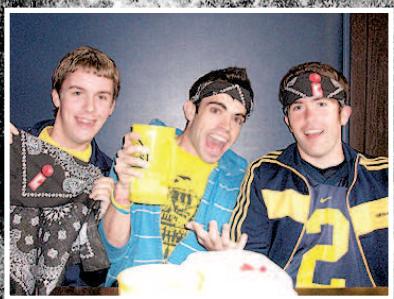
MAEVE
she who intoxicates

Maeve
1325 W. Wrightwood • 773.388.3333
Sunday, Sept. 26th @3:05pm
WASHINGTON REDSKINS at St. Louis Rams



BUD LIGHT

Wanna see more raid pics? Go to www.RedzoneRaids.com to catch your friends in scoring position.

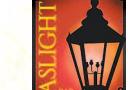


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		<p>For pics, specials and your chance to win prizes go to www.RedZoneRaids.com</p> <p>= indicates which bars will be Raided this week. Check previous page for Raid dates and times.</p>									
	3210 N. Lincoln 773.880.9620		2426 N. Racine 773.929.7759		949 W. Webster 773.281.0656		1927 W. North 773.772.4422		1625 W. Irving Park 773.281.7447		1638 W. Belmont 773.828.5055
	431 N. Wells 312.527.5973		160 E. Grand 312.755.9645		322 E. Illinois 312.245.8331		3358 N. Sheffield 773.404.2151		22 W. Hubbard 312.645.6000		3258 N. Southport 773.528.8226
	404 S. Wells 312.922.3830		950 W. Wrightwood 773.832.4000		1325 W. Wrightwood 773.388.3333		1113 W. Randolph 312.929.4787		22 W. Hubbard 312.645.6000		3258 N. Southport 773.528.8226
	3660 N. Clark 773.755.4444		2274 N. Lincoln 773.472.7940		1113 W. Randolph 312.929.4787		3358 N. Sheffield 773.404.2151		22 W. Hubbard 312.645.6000		3258 N. Southport 773.528.8226
	2548 N. Southport COMING SOON!		2138 N. Halsted 773.348.3665		1113 W. Randolph 312.929.4787		3358 N. Sheffield 773.404.2151		22 W. Hubbard 312.645.6000		3258 N. Southport 773.528.8226
	420 W. Diversey 773.549.9090		3551 N. Sheffield 773.327.7800		1113 W. Randolph 312.929.4787		3358 N. Sheffield 773.404.2151		22 W. Hubbard 312.645.6000		3258 N. Southport 773.528.8226
	810 W. Diversey 773.525.2515		3369 N. Clark 773.244.1166		1113 W. Randolph 312.929.4787		3358 N. Sheffield 773.404.2151		22 W. Hubbard 312.645.6000		3258 N. Southport 773.528.8226
	3724 N. Clark 773.248.3330		940 W. Weed 312.337.3486		1113 W. Randolph 312.929.4787		3358 N. Sheffield 773.404.2151		22 W. Hubbard 312.645.6000		3258 N. Southport 773.528.8226
	3516 N. Clark 773.244.1025		3516 N. Clark 773.244.1025		1113 W. Randolph 312.929.4787		3358 N. Sheffield 773.404.2151		22 W. Hubbard 312.645.6000		3258 N. Southport 773.528.8226
	1501 N. Dayton 773.244.1234		1059 W. Wrightwood 773.549.4949		1113 W. Randolph 312.929.4787		3358 N. Sheffield 773.404.2151		22 W. Hubbard 312.645.6000		3258 N. Southport 773.528.8226
	1015 N. Rush 312.475.0300		1059 W. Wrightwood 773.549.4949		1113 W. Randolph 312.929.4787		3358 N. Sheffield 773.404.2151		22 W. Hubbard 312.645.6000		3258 N. Southport 773.528.8226

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Athena DeCrime, All-Stars
Photos by Gil Leora

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NIGHTCRAWLERS

SEEN ON THE SCENE AT ... Chances Dances at Subterranean, 2011 North Ave.

We hit up Subterranean for the very hot and very sweaty fifth anniversary of Chances Dances, the Queer-friendly party held every third Monday of the month. **BY CRAIG SEYMOUR**



Matt Kasin
21, stylist

What are your favorite pieces of clothing in your closet?

All my leather pieces. Leather never goes out of style and you can wear it over anything.

What should people be wearing this fall?

A leather jacket and leggings. No pants for fall, only leggings.

Which celebrity has the best style?

Lady Gaga. Everything about her is so original and inspirational, and she does so much for the gay community.



Otter
26, barista at The Wormhole

How did you get the name Otter?

Actually, I've had it since I was in seventh grade. I've been trying to come up with a good story about it for a long time. But actually my last name is Otte, so it's not a good story.

What's the tattoo across your chest?

It's from a poem by Langston Hughes. It says "or does it explode." It's from the poem "A Dream Deferred." I don't want to have any unfulfilled dreams, so it's just a reminder every day that, at the end of my life, I don't want to feel like I left something unfinished.

What's your biggest dream?

Well, I play roller derby. I really want to be good at roller derby and I really want to travel the world.



Danielle Nunnally
22, unemployed

What brings you here tonight?

My friend called me up last-minute and asked me to go out. And I just felt like going out tonight.

Since this is Chances Dances, what is the biggest chance you've ever taken?

I moved out to Chicago [from Massachusetts] without ever visiting it before. I needed something new and I was sick of the East Coast. I want to get a job in advertising.

It's fall and people are starting to cover up. What's your best advice for keeping it sexy?

One of my favorite looks is leggings, boots and a blazer with any top. I think it always looks cute.



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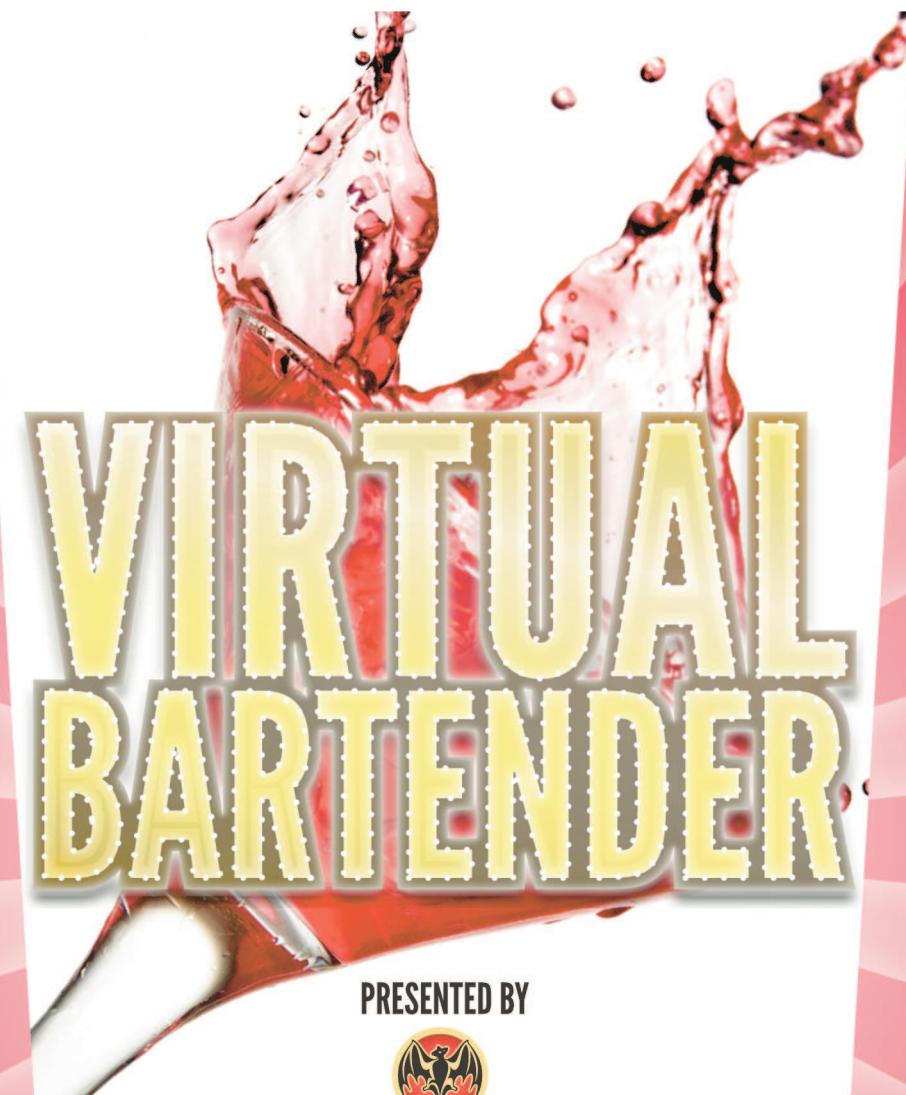
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Noon Die Lustigen Musikanten

SUNDAY

3:00pm Die Musikmeisters Band
11:00am Die Lustigen Musikanten

German Hall Stage

FRIDAY

8:00pm Afrodisiacs
6:30pm Die Musikmeisters Band

SATURDAY

8:00pm Trippin Billies
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Sexy sass

Guitarist and singer Brian Petzel of local rock group TAXI answered our Chi-Tunes questionnaire in the "about" section at chicagonow.com/chi-tunes. Do the same and your band could appear in RedEye and Metromix!

What makes your live show great?

We've had fans come up to us after our shows and tell us it looks like we are having fun up on stage. We always try to have fun during the show. Otherwise, what's the point?

Describe your sound in five words or less.

Sexy, sexy, sexy and good looking.

Tell us something random about the band, and why that's significant.

We were carpooling to a show in Detroit. Paul Soltans (keyboards, vocals) was jonesing for a cigarette but didn't have anymore so he called me to tell me to pull over. I was driving in front of him and as a joke I told him I'd throw him one out of my sunroof. So we both opened up our sunroofs, I slipped him one and he actually caught it. It's only significant because it's an awesome story to tell.

Editor's note: Other members of TAXI: Toby Merrick (bass, percussion, backing vocals), Jacob Fawcett (drums, backing vocals, percussion, harmonica)

Who would you want to work with, and who would you never work with? Why?

Josh Homme from QOTSA. Every record he's made—QOTSA, Eagles of Death and Them Crooked Vultures—has the groove that makes all good records great. You know, the one that cool chicks like. QOTSA has a wide scope of music from acoustic to heavy; I think we also have that depth about us, and the sound of their records are one of a kind. I would be very interested to see what he would do with us. I also think it would be great to work with Jeff Tweedy (circa "Yankee Foxtrot Hotel" and "A Ghost is Born") and Thom Yorke because they are both forward-thinking musicians and producers who have taken chaotic, unorthodox sounds and turned them into really cool songs.

If the band was a cartoon character, who would it be and why?

Brenda from "90210" because we can all be a little [difficult] sometimes.

CHI-TUNES

TAXI

When: 10 p.m. Thursday

Where: The Abbey Pub, 3420 W. Grace,

Tickets:

Listen to TAXI's "Doctor" at chicagonow.com/chi-tunes

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10 p.m. Free; q101.com for details. Bottom Lounge, 1375 W. Lake St. 312-666-6775.

ALAN GRESIK'S SWING SHIFT ORCHESTRA
9 p.m. \$6. Green Mill, 4802 N. Broadway. 773-878-5552.

ANGIE MATTSON
10 p.m. Free. The Whistler, 2421 N. Milwaukee Ave. 773-227-3530.

AVALON STRING QUARTET
7:30 p.m. \$10-\$25. Merit School of Music, 38 S. Peoria St. 800-838-3006.

BILLY BRANCH, JOANNA CONNOR BLUES BAND
9:30 p.m. \$15. Kingston Mines, 2548 N. Halsted St. 773-477-4646.

BLACK BEAR COMBO, VOLCANO!, CAPILARY ACTION
9 p.m. \$8. Hideout, 1354 W. Wabansia Ave. 773-227-4433.

CARLOS JOHNSON
10 p.m. \$10. House of Blues Back Porch Stage, 329 N. Dearborn St. 312-923-2000.

CHARLES RICK

HEATH QUARTET
5 p.m. \$5. Andy's Jazz Club, 11 E. Hubbard St. 312-642-6805.

CHICAGO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
8 p.m. \$23-\$249. Symphony Center, 220 S. Michigan Ave. 312-294-3000.

CURTIS FULLER
9 p.m. \$15. Andy's Jazz Club, 11 E. Hubbard St. 312-642-6805.

THE DEEP DARK WOODS, THESE UNITED STATES, JUNIPER TAR
9 p.m. \$8-\$10. Schubas, 3159 N. Southport Ave. 773-525-2508.

DISTRICT 97, SIDEWALK CHALK, PHILENIOUS RX
9 p.m. \$8. Subterranean, 2011 W. North Ave. 773-278-6600.

ED KOWALCZYK, THRIVING IVORY, MIGGS
8 p.m. \$25. Park West, 322 W. Armitage Ave. 773-929-5959.

EMMITT NERSHI

BAND, CHICAGO FARMER, HENRY WAGONS

8 p.m. \$20. Martyrs', 3855 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-404-9869.

FENNESZ, DAVID DANIELL, MALE

9:30 p.m. \$15. Empty Bottle, 1035 N. Western Ave. 773-276-3600.

FOREIGN STATIONS, STEVE FRANQUE AND THE ALIBI
8:30 p.m. \$8. Beat Kitchen, 2100 W. Belmont Ave. 773-281-4444.

HARMONATION, LOS VICIOS DE PAPA

9 p.m. \$5. Reggie's Music Joint, 2105 S. State St. 312-949-0120.

HOT DOG BLUES JAM

9 p.m. Free. Catcher's Inn, 901 W. 35th St. 773-869-9411.

HUDSON MOHAWKE, STARKEY, PHADED, QUADRATIC

10 p.m. \$11-\$16. Metro,

3730 N. Clark St. 773-549-0203.

JACKSON BROWNE
7:30 p.m. \$45-\$85. The Chicago Theatre, 175 N. State St. 312-462-6300.

JAMES WHEELER

BLUES JAM
9:30 p.m. \$5-\$7. Rosa's Lounge, 3420 W. Armitage Ave. 773-342-0452.

JAVIER MENDOZA

8 p.m. \$5 suggested donation. Uncommon Ground on Clark, 3800 N. Clark St. 773-929-3680.

JIMMY BURNS

7 p.m. Free. House of Blues Back Porch Stage, 329 N. Dearborn St. 312-923-2000.

JODY CASDEN AND COURTEZAN

8 p.m. Cover varies. The Underground Wonder Bar, 10 E. Walton St. 312-266-7761.

»» page 33

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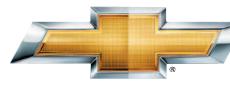
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«« page 31

THE LIMBOS, DEBTAUNTS, BESS ROGERS, LELIA BROUSSARD, ALLISON WEISS
8 p.m. \$8. Elbo Room, 2871 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-549-5549.

LUIZ EWERLING AND A COR DO BRAZIL
10:30 p.m. Cover varies. The Underground Wonder Bar, 10 E. Walton St. 312-266-7761.

LUKE PYTEL
9:30 p.m. \$7. B.L.U.E.S., 2519 N. Halsted St. 773-528-1012.

LYLE LOVETT AND HIS LARGE BAND
7:30 p.m. \$35-\$65. Genesee Theatre, 203 N. Genesee St., Waukegan. 847-782-2366.

MARK PIECHA
9 p.m. \$5. Goose Island Wrigleyville, 3535 N. Clark St. 773-832-9040.

MAZZARELLA/RIORDAN, DAVIS/SCHNEIDER/VINSEL/REED
10 p.m. \$8. Elastic, 2830 N. Milwaukee Ave. 773-772-3616.

NELLIE TRAVIS
9:30 p.m. \$10. Buddy Guy's Legends, 700 S. Wabash Ave. 312-427-0333.

ON STAGE WITH CORKY SIEGEL'S CHAMBER BLUES
7:30 p.m. \$50-\$75. Auditorium Theatre, 50 E. Congress Pkwy. 312-922-2110 300.

PAT MCGEE, GARETH ASHER
8 p.m. \$20-\$36. Space, 1245 Chicago Ave., Evanston. 847-492-8860.

PURGATORY HILL, JEFF HARMS, DAN MOHR
9 p.m. \$5 donation. Quenchers Saloon,



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8 p.m. \$55-\$250. United Center, 1901 W. Madison St. 312-455-4650.

ROD TUFFCURLS AND THE BENCH PRESS
9 p.m. Free. Cubby Bear, 1059 W. Addison St. 773-327-1662.

RUDRESH MAHANTHAPPA QUARTET
8 and 10 p.m. Cover

THE LAST VEGAS, THE FRANTIC
7 p.m. \$25. Congress Theatre, 2135 N. Milwaukee Ave. 773-276-1235.

varies. Jazz Showcase,
806 S. Plymouth Ct.
312-360-0234.

BLUES BAND
9 p.m. \$8. Blue Chicago at Ohio, 536 N. Clark St. 312-661-0100.

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SLOPPY WHITE, DAVE MATTIA, DUKE GRIP, DJ MEATY OGRE
9 p.m. Free. Double Door, 1572 N. Milwaukee Ave. 773-489-3160.

SMITH AND GRIMM
8 p.m. Free. Davenport's (in the piano bar), 1383 N. Milwaukee Ave. 773-278-1830.

SPARE PARTS
10 p.m. Free. Aliveone, 2683 N. Halsted St. 773-348-9800.

STRUNG OUT, RUFIO, MUTE, WE ARE THE UNION, SHE LIKES TODD
5 p.m. \$17. Reggie's Rock Club, 2109 S. State St. 312-949-0120.

TAXI, HALFWAY 2 HOLLYWOOD, THE GAME
9 p.m. \$8-\$10. Abbey Pub, 3420 W. Grace St. 773-478-4408.

VINCE WILLIS
1:30 a.m. Cover varies. The Underground Wonder Bar, 10 E. Walton St. 312-266-7761.

W.C. CLARK
8 p.m. \$15. FitzGerald's, 6615 Roosevelt Rd., Berwyn. 708-788-2118.

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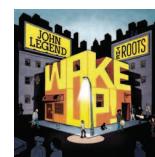


@mmxMusic

QUESTION OF THE WEEK

@mmxmusic question of the week: John Legend and the Roots just released a disc of socially conscious music. What artist could lead their own revolution?

Send your answers to @mmxmusic; they could appear Friday in RedEye!

New releases**John Legend and the Roots***"Wake Up!"*

Columbia/Blue Team

These are troubling times we're living in. One war drawing down. A second on the rise. An economy in a free fall. Into this morass leap R&B crooner John Legend and Philly crew the Roots with a batch of soul covers that sound every bit as prescient today as when they were first recorded. Lead single "Wake Up Everybody," a cover of Melvin and the Blue Notes' 1975 hit reworked here as a gorgeous, string-drenched call to arms, sets the tone. Legend, who possesses a buttery croon as smooth as rainwater on a windshield, can't quite match the pained depth of vocal turns by the likes of Marvin Gaye ("Holy Holy"), Bill Withers ("I Can't Write Left-Handed") and Donny Hathaway ("Little Ghetto Boy")—and really, who could. Despite that, most cuts crackle with life. This is particularly true of "Hard Times," a boisterous, horn-flecked funk-soul jam that urges the struggling to keep on keeping on.

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By Matt Pais

METROMIX

Whether he's playing rock critic Lester Bangs in "Almost Famous," an evil arms dealer in "Mission: Impossible III" or a troubled priest in "Doubt," Philip Seymour Hoffman pretty much always convinces.

Yet the New York native says there's not one performance, including his Oscar-winning turn in "Capote," that he judges as a combination of parts that were OK and "parts that I might loathe."

"Every film I would watch, it would be a roller-coaster ride of emotions," Hoffman, 43, told RedEye during a recent trip to Chicago. "'That was bad!' Or 'That's pretty good.' Or 'I remember that being good; now I don't like it.'"

Clearly the actor is familiar with examining his own performances. Something new is directing movies. Hoffman, who has directed numerous plays, including "The Long Red Road" earlier this year at the Goodman Theatre, takes his first shot at directing movies with the indie drama "Jack Goes Boating," opening Friday.

That doesn't get in the way of another credible performance from Hoffman, who reprises the starring role of Jack from the off-Broadway play and turns the lonely limo driver into a sad but sympathetic guy who needs someone to pull him out of his rut. Jack's trying to find the right words to get close to a funeral home employee played by Amy Ryan.

At the Elysian Hotel, Hoffman talked about the challenge of directing himself, avoiding post-Oscar mistakes and starring with Zac Efron in a musical in which they play each other.

When you were in Chicago directing "The Long Red Road," what did you like doing when you weren't working?

God, you know it felt like I was at the Goodman Theatre most of the time. I remember going to Steppenwolf and checking out a show there. I remember the last time I was here, I went to Lookingglass. I do try to check out some of the companies [when I'm here] because I really enjoy their work. ... It's a great city, but I was working a lot. I was at the theater six days a week ... I think I ate about 10 billion hot dogs at a place [called] Portillo's. Like A LOT. I ate there way more than I think I should have, but I couldn't help it.



'Jack' of all trades

Oscar winner Hoffman has the acting thing down. Now he's directing his first movie—and starring in it

Philip Seymour Hoffman tries to woo Amy Ryan in 'Jack Goes Boating.'
OVERTURE FILMS

With mustard or ketchup?

I think both. I don't know. I just said, "With everything." [Laughs.] They had great French fries. Hot dogs are serious here; I love it.

Some people, not me, will boot you out of the city if you put ketchup on a hot dog.

Oh, really. I remember when I first got a hot dog from there, I was like, "That's a serious hot dog. I don't want to screw it up."

You didn't feel any anger for putting ketchup on?

No, I think I put ketchup on in hiding. Back in my room or something.

How challenging was it to direct an actor like Philip Seymour Hoffman in "Jack Goes Boating"?

[Laughs.] He's a nightmare, that guy. Directing yourself isn't an easy task. I really wouldn't want to do it again. I guess never say never. ... It's very enjoyable, directing. I think in a certain sense, I was very spoiled by the

people I had around me. But I really enjoyed the process of directing the film. When I had to act, it took away from the enjoyment of having to direct. That's a whole other ball of wax. You have to stop being a director.

People talk about what happens to an actor's career after winning an Oscar. What's a role that came your way that made you say, "Oh, that would be my 'Catwoman.' I'm staying away from that."

I try not to think about my career in that serious a way. I try to just kind of go with my gut and try not to do anything that I feel is not essential. That's done me well. I've been grateful enough to get enough offers from serious enough people that [it] kind of keeps me grounded in how hard this all is and to do it well is not easy.

When I interviewed Zac Efron, he wanted an original idea for a musical, so I offered him the part of Zac Efron in "The Zac Efron Story." He said he wanted you to play him.

What will you bring to the role and how do you feel about him playing you in "The Philip Seymour Hoffman Story"?

[Laughs.] Um, I don't want to answer that.

[Laughs.] I love musicals, actually, but the idea of me being in musicals is so frightening to me. I think Zac should rethink that. Maybe we can be in it together, and we can play each other. So it will be "The Zac and Phil Story," but we'd play each other and that's the whole twist. Maybe we should bring that back on Zac and see what he thinks about that.

What tips would you have for him when he played you?

Just say and do a lot of things that are inappropriate. To constantly stick your foot in your mouth.

What is it like to be ridiculously talented?

Uhhhhhhhhhhhhh ... I think talent, and I'm not just saying this, is about putting the work in. So I think there are a lot of people



HOFFMAN AT A GLANCE

On his iPod now: "I don't have one with me. I have an iPod at home and it's kind of an iPod for the family, and there's tons of music on that and there's nothing specific we're listening to at the moment. I know that's very un-2010."

Drink of choice: Iced lattes

Chicago in five words or less: "I don't know if I can do it in five words or less. Every time I'm here ... I'm always reminded not only that it's this beautiful city; there's a power to it. Just aesthetically. It's utterly unique that way. How San Francisco is, in a totally different way. Or New York is, in a totally different way. It is its own. But there's a power to it." **M.P.**



Hoffman
GETTY IMAGES

that are ridiculous talented. And I mean that. I've met a lot of actors and writers who I think are loaded up with talent. And then there's the people that [never] put a lot of the work in. That separates, I think. So I think there's been times when I've put the work in and that's when it's paid off, and I think I've made the most out of whatever talent I have. And then there are some times when I haven't and I'm just one of the guys. It's amazing how equal everyone becomes when you haven't put the work in.

For example?

Well again, it's on the day. It's not the whole film. 'Cause then you'd just be every day showing up like a [bleeping] [bleep].

"He's hung over again."

Yeah. You have days where you're like, "God, I didn't do what I should have done here." And you're pretty average.

MATT PAIS IS THE METROMIX MOVIES PRODUCER.
MPAIS@TRIBUNE.COM



'Jack Goes Boating'

(R)

"Just another movie that could be titled 'Sad Guy in New York.' "

MATT PAIS, METROMIX
» Read Matt's full review in Friday's RedEye and at metromix.com.



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the social network OPENS NATIONWIDE OCTOBER 1

Shatner's my dad!

Chicago native says it's 'amazing' to play TV legend's son on sitcom

Jonathan Sadowski isn't new to Hollywood, but he's still pinching himself about his latest job starring opposite TV legend William Shatner.

The 30-year-old Chicago native plays Shatner's son in the new CBS comedy "\$#! My Dad Says," which debuts Thursday.

"It's a trip, man. It's one of the most amazing things I've ever done in my life," said Sadowski, who appeared on the big screen in "Live Free or Die Hard" and "She's the Man." "It's still kind of surreal sometimes, you know? Eating breakfast ... and just shooting the [#\$#!] about football. It's kind of weird."

So weird, in fact, that when they started working together, Sadowski still wasn't sure how to address Shatner, whose TV credits include "Star Trek," "T.J. Hooker" and "Boston Legal."

"One day I said to him, 'Hey, Mr. Shatner.' And he goes, 'Please, call me Bill,'" Sadowski said. "It kind of, like, made my week."

Sadowski, who grew up in Bridgeport, wasn't expecting to be in this position at all. He planned to audition to play the son, Henry, in the sitcom, which is based on Justin Halpern's hugely popular Twitter feed that spools out his gruff father's foul-mouthed life lessons. But he was cast in another pilot, which didn't get picked up to become a series.

Warner Bros. already had cast Ryan Devlin to play Henry and shot the pilot, but by July the studio wanted to replace him. Sadowski found out, met with producer Max Mutchnick and director James Burrows and did a couple of screen tests. A day after the last test, he was hired.

Sadowski, who attended Mount Carmel High School and the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, said it wasn't difficult



show patrol

CURT WAGNER
cwagner@tribune.com

\$#! My Dad Says'
7:30 p.m. Thursday, CBS



Jonathan Sadowski (left) bonds with William Shatner in '\$#! My Dad Says.'
CBS

stepping into the role, and he said Devlin, the actor he replaced who also is his friend, harbored no ill will.

"He was one of the first people to give me a call and congratulate me on getting the role," Sadowski said. "I've been replaced in the past. [#\$#!] happens. It's all part of the business."

Since his casting, Sadowski's been on a wild ride. He'd met Shatner only once—at his screen test—before he started doing publicity for the show. The first time he met co-stars Will Sasso and Nicole Sullivan, who play his stepbrother and sister-in-law, was at the Television Critics Association summer press tour in August.

"Me, Nicole and Will were doing interviews together, and they're like, 'What's it like working on set?'" Sadowski said, "and I was like, 'Guys, you want to take this one?'"

In the pilot, Sadowski's Henry comes to see his father, Ed Goodson, whom he hasn't spoken to in two years. He needs money but ends up moving in with his dad.

The episode lacks the edge one might expect from a series built around the politically incorrect musings of a 74-year-old curmudgeon.

Sadowski said he agrees with Shatner, who has accused CBS of "pussyfooting" by deleting the expletive from the name of the show. "The word ... is around us. It isn't a terrible term. It's a natural function," Shatner has said.

Sadowski understands that the show is supposed to be a family comedy as it tells the "funny, heartwarming" story of the two men trying to get to know each other. But, he said, families know that word.

"I can pretty much assure you that kids have heard much worse than the word [#\$#!]," he said.

Sadowski heard worse from his own mom, Marirose, who still lives in Bridgeport with Sadowski's dad, Bob.

"I can write a few tweets about her," Sadowski said. "They might revoke my Twitter account though. She's a fiery one."



Betty White in 'Community'

'Community' mocks 'Dad'

Betty White guest stars in the Season 2 premiere of NBC's "Community," but the best running gag in the episode takes a dig at CBS' "\$#! My Dad Says."

Troy (Donald Glover) starts a Twitter account chronicling everything offensive Pierce (Chevy Chase) says. The name of the account is @OldWhiteManSays, which you'll find on Twitter.

The joke ties into a special Twitter event before the premiere called a "Twittersode." At 6 p.m. Thursday, several Twitter feeds devoted to the show's characters will "act out" a scene in which the characters will plan their second year at community college. About 80 tweets will make up the scene and can be followed at nbc.com/communitytwittersode.

White plays an anthropology teacher with a blow-dart gun and healthy dislike of Jeff (Joel McHale), an attitude running rampant among the women of Greendale after Jeff and Britta (Gillian Jacobs) kissed.

Make sure you stick around for the episode's tag in which White's character joins Abed (Danny Pudi) and Troy for the final scene.

FOR MORE ON THESE AND OTHER SHOWS, VISIT SHOWPATROTV.COM



'Community'

7 p.m. Thursday, NBC

How to record '\$#!'

CBS released a letter instructing viewers how to record "\$#! My Dad Says" with their DVRs. Apparently most DVRs don't have the symbols \$#! in their search fields.

"If you'd like to record \$#! MY DAD SAYS from your DVR, we recommend activating the 'record' function by going directly through the program guide on your cable or satellite system," the letter instructs. "Our research shows most viewers record in this method; but, if you're one of the few who have had issues with the DVR search function for this show, this alternative offers an easy solution."

My advice to viewers: Set your DVRs to record NBC's "30 Rock" instead. "\$#!" is crap.

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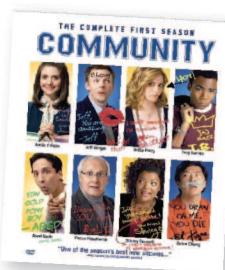
Illinois Cash for Appliances 15% off program is limited to select models and maximum savings is up to \$250 per eligible item purchases. Funds are available for a limited time. Sale does not start until 8am Friday, September 24, 2010. Sale can end at any time. You must be an Illinois resident and delivery of appliances must be to an Illinois residency to qualify. See store for details.

TV ON DVD

'Community: The Complete First Season'

Available now

Using an eclectic group of personalities and enough pop culture references to put "Family Guy" to shame, "Community" undoubtedly is one of the funnier shows on TV. The complete first season is made up of 25 episodes on four discs. Some nice special features accompany the episodes, including commentary, outtakes, humorous featurettes, extended cuts of the pilot and alternative scenes. **GARRETT CONTI, THE PITTSBURGH TRIBUNE-REVIEW**



BEAUTY

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SONGS

'Dream Chasin'

By FeSo featuring Kris Bills; listen at redeyechicago.com/kylesfiles

Local rapper FeSo, with an assist from Kris Bills, chased his dream all the way to a track-off win. The wistful, flute-inflected "Dream Chasin'" won 67 percent of the vote in a bout against ChicagoRo. Check out FeSo's winning track and come back every Monday to vote in future rap, rock, R&B and soul track-offs.

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FASHION

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Kona Blue, 11,950 Miles
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Blue, 13,140 Miles
Wilkins Price
\$17,991*



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CX-7 FWD 4 Dr Touring**
Stk# 32611
Burgundy, 20,790 Miles
Wilkins Price
\$19,491*



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\$19,991*



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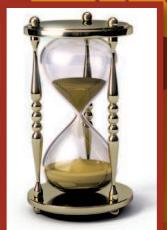
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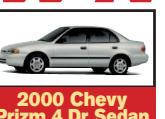
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Black, 93,914 Miles
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**2000 Chevy
Prizm 4 Dr Sedan**
Stk# 32527B
White, 56,901 Miles
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\$6,991[†]



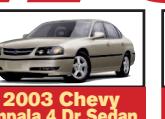
**2005 Pontiac
Montana SV6 Minivan**
Stk# 10330A, Loaded
Silver, 99,875 Miles
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\$6,991[†]



**2007 Suzuki
Forenza 4 Dr Sedan**
Stk# 15417A
White, 37,151 Miles
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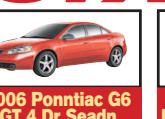
**2004 Saturn
Vue V6 FWD Auto**
Stk# 10449A
Black, 82,836 Miles
Wilkins Price
\$7,991[†]



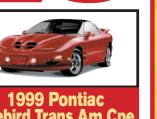
**2003 Chevy
Impala 4 Dr Sedan**
Stk# 32592A
Galaxy, 51,943 Miles
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**2006 Mercury Milan
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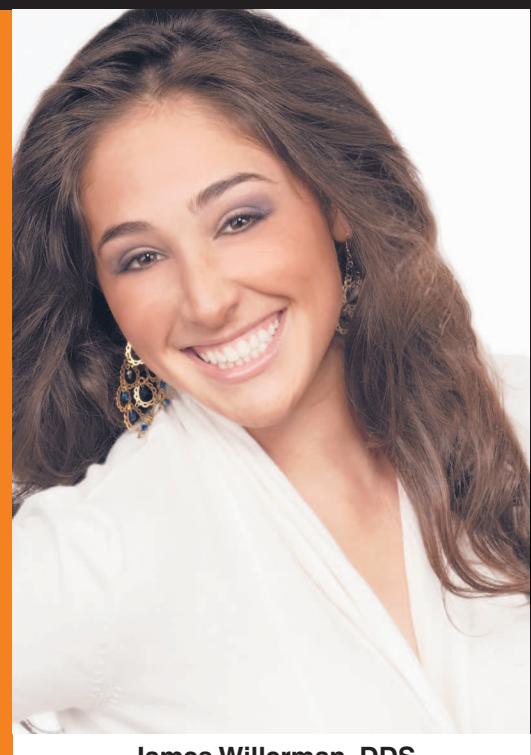
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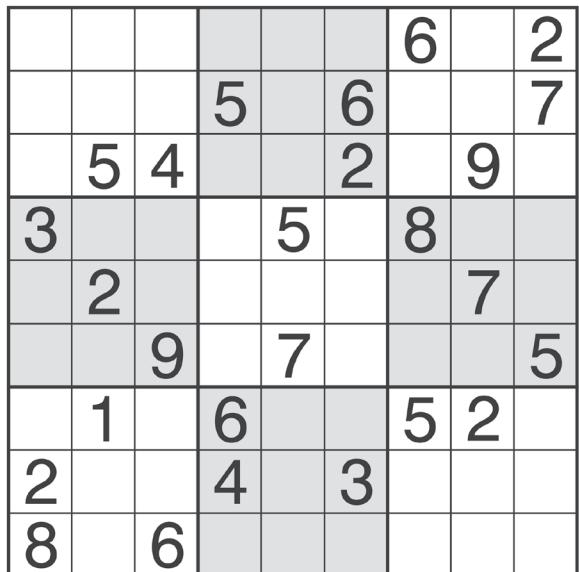
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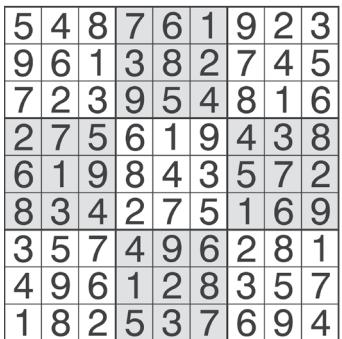
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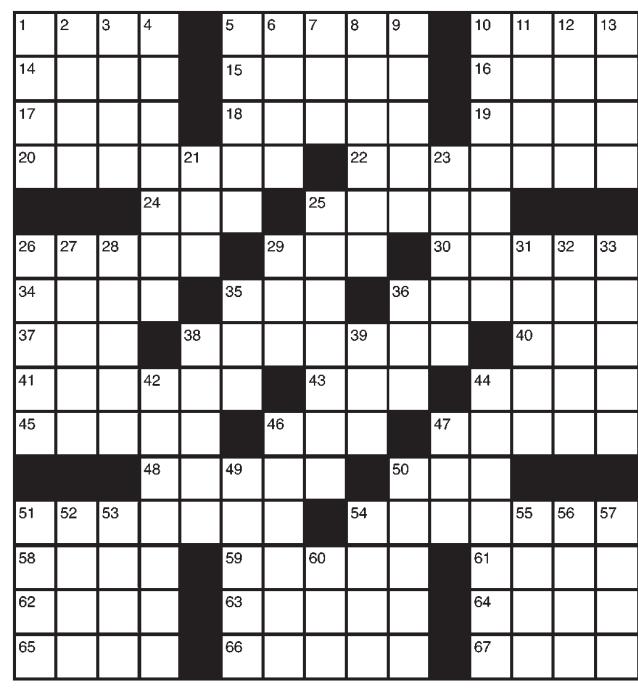
**WEDNESDAY'S SOLUTIONS****ACROSS**

1 "... and shine!"; morning phrase
5 Highways
10 Air pollution
14 Piece of religious art
15 Made of a cereal grain
16 Coffin cloth
17 "Phooey!"
18 Amphitheater
19 Make eyes at
20 Totally occupy
the mind of
22 Teheran resident
24 Crawling insect
25 Men
26 Use a razor
29 Friend
30 Absorbs
34 Beauty spot
35 For each
36 Crumb
37 Long ... in distant past
38 Small British cafe
40 Sorority letter
41 New ... CT
43 Wheel center
44 Acquires
45 Genuflected
46 Scottish refusal
47 Swamp
48 Satan
50 Move back
and forth, as a tail
51 African nation
54 Beet soup
58 Claim against property
59 Take place
61 Sightseeing trip
62 Pork or beef
63 Roaring felines
64 Brink
65 Certain
66 Anxious feeling
67 Smell bad

DOWN

1 Carousel, e.g.
2 "See Clearly Now"
3 Anthem
4 Carve letters into

44 Joke player
46 Vitamin B complex acid
47 Deface
49 Stringed instrument
50 Most terrible
51 Charity
52 In ... of; as a sub for
53 ... up; prepare
54 Round rolls
55 Morse ...
56 Gigantic
57 Journey
60 Wheel tooth

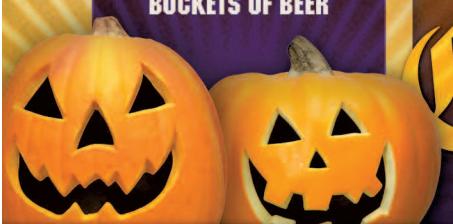


5 Cut of beef
6 Rowboat steerer's
needs
7 Gobbled up
8 "I did not!" or
"No way!"
9 Curl the upper lip
10 Godparent
11 Three Wise Men
12 Widemouthed jar
13 Valley
21 1/4 and 3/4
23 Fable creator

25 Title at Fire Department
26 Noisy kiss
27 Navajo dwelling
28 Unattached
29 Tiny veggie
31 Daisylke flower
32 Poet John ...
33 Messy, melting snow
35 Bic product
36 Crowd
38 Spud
39 Color
42 Cooked, but still firm

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'IDOL' REBOOT

It came as no great shock Wednesday when Fox announced that Aerosmith frontman Steven Tyler and diva Jennifer Lopez will be the new judges on "American Idol." What's somewhat surprising is that producers want to take the show in a new direction. "The days of kicking somebody in the testicles are gone," executive producer Nigel Lythgoe told reporters Wednesday. Will a kinder, gentler "Idol" be anywhere near as entertaining? Here are our predictions about the show's personalities in Season 10, which kicks off in January.

By Dana Moran
REDEYE

Randy Jackson

What he'll miss about former judges: Having his musical knowledge outshine at least one other judge on the panel. We love Ellen DeGeneres and her goofy dancing, but she's not exactly a musical expert.

What he's looking forward to: J.Lo hopping onstage to give dance tips to klutzy contestants.

How he's changing his style: Without Simon to bring the cranky and Paula Abdul to bring the crazy, he's going to have to step up his entertaining quips. Expect random outbursts.

Jennifer Lopez

Judging style: At the news conference, Lopez said she believes in tough love but not being cruel to other artists. We predict a lot of toe-tapping and eye-rolling.

Nickname: "The Spicy One"
Catchphrase: "Love don't cost a thing, Randy!"

What she really wants to hear contestants sing: "Jenny From the Block." It's the perfect way to remind contestants she knows where they're coming from—and that they have a long way to go.

Steven Tyler

Judging style: He said Wednesday that sending people home with a broken heart will be hard, but also fun.

We're guessing he'll be the one to impress this season.

Nickname: "The Wise One"
Catchphrase: Unintelligible yowling.

What he really wants to hear contestants sing: "Livin' on the Edge." It shows they're ready for a rocker's life. No points for "Dream On"—it's way too cliche.

Ryan Seacrest

What he'll miss about former judges: Trading banter with Simon Cowell. Who'll be there to tease him?

What he's looking forward to: Gabbing with J.Lo, we suspect. "When Jennifer said after the introductions, 'Should we change for the press conference?' I knew it was a match made in heaven," he said Wednesday.

How he's changing his style: Using less hair product. Wait, no, that definitely won't be happening.

Pictured here, Alyssa wears the Cotton Spandex Jersey Halter Leotard and Lana Shoes; Sonja wears a prototype version of the Nylon Tricot Halter One-Piece, Sheer Luxe Shapes Over-the-Knee Socks and Dancing Shoes; Tiana wears the Velvet Tank Thong Bodysuit, Opaque Pantyhose and Dance Shoes; Anna wears the Cotton Spandex Jersey Double U-Neck Long Sleeve Bodysuit and Dancing Shoes.

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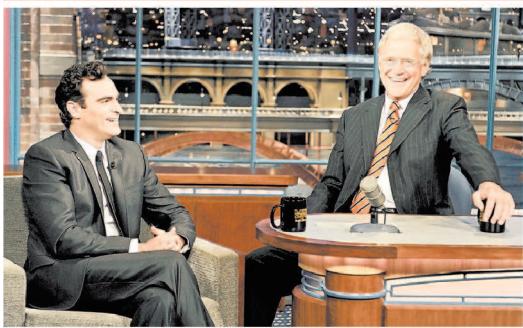
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The truth is out there

A clean-shaven Joaquin Phoenix (above left) returned to the "Late Show" show Wednesday to discuss his bizarre, bearded appearance on the program a year ago—when he was working on his fake "I'm Still Here" rap documentary. David Letterman insisted—and Phoenix confirmed—the host was not part of the ruse.

CBS PHOTO



A toast to Dre

Put down the Cristal—there's a new way to drink like a rapper. Dr. Dre's (left) cognac is set to hit shelves in late September or early October, billboard.com and allhiphop.com report. The cognac, Aftermath, will be followed by an 80-proof flavored and unflavored sparkling vodka. That'll be one tingly shot.

Live from YouTube

Can't make it to New York on Thursday to see the Roots and John Legend perform? No worries. The entire show, directed by Spike Lee, will be streamed live at youtube.com/johnlegendvevo. Look for tons of special guests too: Common, Estelle, Jennifer Hudson and others, according to pitchfork.com.

THE DIGIT

18.3 MILLION

That's how many viewers tuned in to the "Dancing With the Stars" results show Tuesday to see David Hasselhoff (left) get the boot, according to hollywoodreporter.com.

REUTERS PHOTO



ALL-STAR CHEF

NEIL BURGER PHOTO



"I'm the Tolstoy of text."

—Hole singer Courtney Love (right) to New York Magazine on her tendency to write lengthy text messages. GETTYIMAGES PHOTO

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Dale Levitski (left) of Lincoln Park bistro Sprout is heading to the "Top Chef" kitchen again.

The "Top Chef Miami" runner-up is one of 18 cheftestants who will compete in "Top Chef All-Stars" beginning Dec. 1, Bravo announced Wednesday at the end of the "Top Chef D.C. Reunion Show."

The "All-Stars" season already was filmed in its entirety in New York.

"It's definitely the best season yet," Levitski told RedEye. "It's ridiculous."

» Read more about Levitski's return to the "Top Chef" franchise at showpatrolTV.com.